

2024 Volume 2

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## Poland Township Post



#### A Message from the Trustees:

Eric Ungaro: Chairman • Edward Kempers: Vice Chairman • Joanne Wollet: Trustee

Letter from the Trustees:

The Township Trustees would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! This issue of the newsletter is a highlight of some of the projects and programs of the past year and our visions for next year. We are thankful for the financial support we have received from the Mahoning County Commissioners who have supported our road and infrastructure projects throughout the township. We are also very proud to have our new stormwater system camera and the accompanying specialized van: all funded through the Mahoning County ARPA funds. We are most proud of the fact that all these projects are funded by using no local revenue. We are grateful for your support of the Mahoning County .25% sales tax revenues. The sales tax money continues to be very beneficial to Poland Township and all the other local communities.

Our vision for the future is clear. We are exploring the possibility of decorative lighting along the sidewalks on State Route 170 from the Village out to the High School. This additional lighting will provide a safe environment for the many residents who use this sidewalk especially during the shortened daylight hours of early Fall to early Spring. In addition to the ongoing street resurfacing, we are pursuing a pavement preservation project. Unfortunately, we all know that due to weather conditions in Ohio, our roads do not last forever. Rather than just wait until a road is in disrepair and go through the rather expensive process of simply repaving, we plan to implement the processes of pavement preservation. Pavement preservation is the process of using less expensive, state of the art, treatments to our current roads in order to prolong their life. If we can prolong the lifespan of roads now, we can curtail the ever rising cost repaving in the future.

We have also entered into an agreement with the Poland Village Council and The Poland Schools to seek grant money from the Ohio Safe Routes to Schools. We are working together alongside an engineering consultant firm to develop a Safe Travel Plan. Once we have developed a Safe Travel Plan, we will be able to use our communities' collaborative plan to apply for state funding for the projects. Some of the ideas to make our community a safer place to walk, jog, or bike are the possibility of adding crosswalks, additional sidewalks, and public lighting.

Please continue to check our recently redesigned website for other programs like the electric and natural gas aggregation program, the prescription drug drop-off, the parking lot safe exchange zone, neighbor watch program, house watch program, senior watch program, and many of the other services we offer here at the township. As always, you, the residents of Poland, are our highest priority. Never hesitate to reach out with any new ideas or concerns.

We are always here for you!

Sincerely, Poland Township Trustees, Eric, Ed, and Joanne

## Poland Township Park PICKLEBALL COURTS



The Township Park will soon complete the construction of two Pickleball Courts. This is a part of an ongoing process of providing our residents with multiple recreational elements surrounding the Oak Grove Picnic Pavilion Area.

Joanne Wollet, Poland Township Trustee, said, "Pickleball is the perfect addition to our Township Park because it is for everyone, from youth to our seniors and everyone between. Pickleball can be enjoyed in our beautiful, one of a kind, park."

In addition to our challenging 5K Cross Country course and the 1.5 miles of hiking trails throughout the park woodland areas, the Oak Grove Picnic Pavilion Area is home to an array of various recreational features. Within close proximity to the pavilion is a playground area, a sled riding hill, a beach volleyball court, a cornhole court, and a bocce court.

Township Trustee, Ed Kempers added, "Whether you are a park naturalist, or you are just looking for a place to spend a relaxing afternoon with family and friends, there is something here for everyone. And now, our Pickleball enthusiasts can enjoy our newest addition to the recreation area."





Poland Township Park Director, Ken Filicky said, "The Pickleball Court is currently under construction, and it is slated to be open for play by early Spring 2025.

#### The Future of the All-Persons Accessibility Trail at the Township Park

The design and construction plan is nearing completion for an All-Persons Accessibility Trail to the Soccer Pavilion, Concession area, and Restrooms. This project will provide access for those with mobility issues with a safe route from Moore Road to essential facilities in this area of the Park. The project is made possible through a partial grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks program. We are soliciting additional funding to make this project a reality. Thus far, additional funding for support of the project has been provided through community grants from CASTLO and the Community Foundation of Mahoning Valley. We plan to break ground on this project in early spring of 2025.



#### POLAND TOWNSHIP PARK



Please Scan the QR code on the Aerial Map to gain access our Poland Township Park Virtual Interactive Map

We are very excited about our newly designed interactive Poland Township Park Map. Pictured here is an aerial map of the Poland Township Park located at 7400 Moore Road. As you can see there are numerous points of interest to explore throughout the Park. We will be posting large copies of this map at the park and on our website for quick referrals. The exciting part of this map is that visitors can scan the QR code on the aerial map for the virtual interactive map that can be used while you are visiting our Park. The virtual map can track your location on your cell phone while you are in the park. Visitors can click on the points of interest in real time to obtain interesting facts about the area. You can also click on the trails for distance information. We are very fortunate to have this amazing, one of a kind tool. No other park in the region has anything like it. The maps were developed by Kyle Filicky of Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.,. a former Poland Seminary High School graduate. Kyle developed the map as a prototype to be used as a demonstration for other potential parks and wildlife areas. His father, Ken Filicky, currently serves as the Poland Township Park Director.



# SCHEDULE EVENTS SC

#### 2025

14 JAN

**FAITH BASED COALITION MEETING** 

**GOVERNMENT CENTER I 6:00 PM** 

**25** 

**COFFEE WITH A COP** 

STONE FRUIT 19:00 AM

20

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING** 

HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA 16:00 PM

14 MAR

**SCHOOL STAFF TRAINING** 

POLAND HIGH SCHOOL I 9:00 AM

O1 APR **OPEN** 

I:0 AM

15

**MEMORIAL SERVICE** 

**GOVERNMENT CENTER I 10:00 AM** 

24

**PARADE** 

POLAND VILLAGE I 10:00 AM

27

**PARADE** 

CELEBRATE POLAND 1:0 PM

01

**OPEN** 

1:0 AM

**02** 

**SAFTEY FORCES APPRECIATION PICNIC** 

TOWNSHIP PARK I 11:00 AM

11 SEP **SCHOOL PARADE** 

MCKINLEY / MIDDLE SCHOOL I :0 AM

O1

**COFFEE WITH A COP** 

STONE FRUIT 19:00 AM

21 oct **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING** 

TBD I 6:0 PM

01

**OPEN** 

I:0 AM

#### **POLAND TOWNSHIP POLICE**



Our Trustees and Officers at the Poland Safety Forces Appreciation Picnic at the Poland Township



Just in case you were wondering how Pogo got her name...



Our Police Canine "Pogo" visits Poland McKinley Elementary School



Officers Superak, McCrea, and Jackson spending time with the community at the Park



Trustees Joanne Wollet, Eric Ungaro, and Ed Kempers working the grills at the Safety Forces Appreciation Picnic

Chief Wilson at the Rotary Club

## STORMWATER CAMERA SYSTEM AND SPECIALIZED CONVERSION VAN

Thanks to the support of the Mahoning County Commissioner's ARPA fund disbursement, the Poland Township Road Department was able to purchase a Stormwater System Camera and a specialized conversion van designed especially for the video camera system. The specifically designed van will allow us to use the storm system camera for inspecting our storm pipes while allowing the video operators to be in a safe, climate controlled environment during inspections along our roadways. The camera lens is attached to a small robotic truck that can maneuver inside the pipes to provide visual inspection in areas that can not be accessed by humans. The computerized controller inside the van can view the pipe in real time. It also provides digitally recorded information like the distance traveled and angle of approach. The recorded information can be used to analyze and diagnose any potential issues. The robot also has a locator beacon that can be detected with a surface monitor so that the operators can locate the exact location of the subsurface robot. The complete camera/van system along with our current storm system vac truck will allow for a safe and efficient method of maintaining our storm water systems. Sometimes extreme weather can be the root cause of a stormwater issue, but a system of early discovery and ongoing maintenance can maximize our existing stormwater system infrastructure. The stormwater camera/van system will serve our community for many years to come.



#### ROAD DEPARTMENT SERVICES

The Poland Township Road Department consists of a 5 person crew that services 51 miles of Township roadways. With potentially difficult weather ahead, we ask in advance for your patience. Our road department crew is often deployed during the work day, late at night, or in the early morning hours to make our roads as safe as possible for our schools, your morning commute, and safe return home. However, they can't get to every home immediately. They have a system that is the most efficient for the township. For example, sometimes we need to revisit cul-de-sacs later in the day to clear the middle out.

Poland Township Residents can call **(330) 757-0733** if you have any problems or concerns with our Township roadways. However, not all roads within the Township are the maintenance responsibility of the Poland Township Road Department. Some of the roads are the maintenance responsibility of Mahoning County or the State of Ohio.

Residents can call following numbers for problems or concerns with roads not within the Poland Township Road Department area of service.

Road listing by area of service and maintenance responsibility:

#### Call (330) 799-1581 for County Roads:

Clingan Road New Castle Road Struthers Road
Dobbins Road North Lima Road Styme Road
Fifth Street South Hubbard Road Walker Mill Road
Kennedy Road Spitler Road Western Reserve Road

Lowellville Road State Line Road Lyon Blvd. Stewart Road

#### Call (330) 533-1581 for State Roads:

170 - Yo. Pitts. Road 224 - Center Road 616 - Water Street

All other roads are within the Township area of maintenance responsibility. Feel free to contact us any time you have a problem or concern. Our residents are our first priority.

## ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN POLAND TOWNSHIP

We can safely say that Poland Township has some of the best roads in our area. This was primarily due to the 7 year bond issue passed by our voters in 2018. Thanks to our voters, this massive project allowed us to repave just about every street in Poland Township. This bond issue is set to expire with the final collection to be made in August of 2025. Still, we did not stop there. Each year since the original project, the Trustees approved the resurfacing of roads not included in the 2018 paving project or in need of repair.

The 2024 road projects and infrastructure improvements in Poland Township have been completed. Our biggest project for the year was the paving, storm water basin repair, and curb and gutter repair on Polo Blvd. and Polo Court. These streets were not paved during our 2018 road paving project due to the ongoing construction in the area. We also paved and added shoulder enhancements on Denver Drive. Phase 2 of the Venloe Drive Storm water project was completed. No local Poland taxpayer money was used on any of these projects. The projects were all made possible through outside funding from OPWC grant money and the Mahoning County .25% sales tax fund for road and infrastructure improvements.

Many thanks to the Mahoning County Commissioners and the Mahoning County Engineer for their paving of County roads in our area. Clingan Road was completely resurfaced. In addition, two small bridges were replaced on Dobbins Road along with a complete road resurfacing. Again, no local Poland taxpayer money was used on any of these projects. You, as a voter of Mahoning County, have made all these projects possible through the Mahoning County .25% sales tax fund for road and infrastructure improvements.

Future plans for 2025 include the paving of a portion of Lee Run Road and the small gravel portion of Bishop Road just off of Lee Run Road. In addition, we plan to pave Catarina Place and Stones Throw Ave by the end of 2025.

#### **Pavement Preservation**

As we continue paving projects for our roads according to their condition ratings, the Township Trustees have taken the initiative to invest some of our resources in pavement preservation. This project includes the study of the current condition of our newer roads and finding state of the art methods of preservation in order to prolong the life of our currently existing roads that are not quite ready to be paved, but in need of minor maintenance. The Trustees are working with engineering consultants in order to find the best methods available to prolong the life of our current pavements. Again, this will all be done with the use of Mahoning County Sales Tax funding shared through the County and available grant funding.



Denver Drive road resurfacing and shoulder enhance



Polo Blvd. under construction



Polo Blvd curb replacement and road resurfacing project completed



Venloe Drive Phase 2 Stormwater Management Project



This is Polo Blvd curb replacement project



## POLAND TOWNSHIP ZONING DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF ALDI GROCERY STORE ON CENTER ROAD

The Poland Township Zoning Department is pleased to announce the highly anticipated opening of the new Aldi grocery store, located at 3236 Center Road. This addition to the community marks an exciting milestone in the Township's ongoing efforts to promote smart growth, encourage economic development, and enhance the quality of life for residents.

After months of careful planning, coordination, and collaboration, Aldi's new facility reflects a commitment to sustainable development and responsible land use. The zoning department worked closely with Aldi's project team to ensure compliance with all Township regulations while addressing community priorities such as accessibility, aesthetics, and environmental stewardship.

We are delighted to welcome Aldi to Poland Township. This project represents a significant investment in our community and will provide residents with greater access to fresh, affordable groceries. We appreciate Aldi's dedication to meeting local zoning standards while enhancing the commercial vitality of the Center Road corridor.

Key Features of the New Aldi Store:

- Strategic Location: Positioned conveniently on Center Road, the new store is comprised of 19,631 square feet and is easily accessible to Poland Township residents and neighboring communities.
- Sustainable Design: The building incorporates energy-efficient technologies, modern architecture, and environmentally friendly features that align with Poland Township's commitment to sustainability.
- Community Benefits: The store not only expands local grocery options but also creates new employment opportunities, contributing to the Township's economic growth.
- Landscaping and Aesthetics: The site's landscaping plan was designed to enhance the visual appeal of the area while maintaining harmony with the surrounding environment.

The zoning department extends its gratitude to the Aldi development team, Poland Township Trustees, and community members who supported this project and ensured its successful completion.

#### **Grand Opening Details:**

The new Aldi store did a "soft opening" on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 and celebrated its grand opening on December 5, 2024 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The Poland Township Zoning Department remains committed to fostering a balanced and forward-thinking approach to development, ensuring that all projects contribute positively to the community.



#### **UNIFIED 911 CENTER**



Unified 911 Center Update—In June 2022, Poland Township Trustees began a vigorous campaign to merge calls generated from Poland residents for Poland Township Police, Poland Village Police, and the Western Reserve Fire District to be answered at one dispatching center.

On November 7, 2022, all their efforts paid off, and one dispatch center began answering and dispatching all emergency calls generated from Poland. Chief Greg Wilson states, "The transition was very smooth, and the community, as well as first responders, will greatly benefit from one Unified 911 Center." Chief Wilson credits the hard work of the Poland Township Trustees, Boardman Police Department, Austintown Police Department, Mahoning County Sheriff's Department, Mahoning County Commissioners, and many others.

#### Township Contact Info

#### Poland Township Government

3339 Dobbins Road Poland, OH 44514

**Phone: (330) 757.0733** Fax: (330) 757.1152

For immediate emergencies, Please call: Township Police: 911 or (330) 757-1549 Village Police: 911 or (330) 757-2717

Fire: 911 or (330) 757-1133

#### **Township Offices**

 Administration
 (330) 757-0733

 Zoning Department
 (330) 757-0733

 Road Department
 (330) 757-0733

 Recycling
 (330) 757-0733

Police (Emergency) 911 or (330) 757-1549 Fire (Emergency) 911 or (330) 757-1133

## NEW CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Township has been continually active with new construction occurring with condominiums and housing. These developments offer new growth to the Township the community and give current residents the opportunity to stay within the community or for newcomers to move into the Township. This construction is taking place at the following locations.

- Villa Nora Condo Development located on Struthers Road between Center Rd. and Kennedy Rd. These
  condominiums are single villas and are being developed by Doug Susany and once completed will be a
  total of 37 units.
- Harvest Glenn Condo Development located on Harvest Glenn Trial which enters off of Harvest Run Trail
  and encompasses the corner of Yo-Pittsburgh Rd. & Western Reserve Rd. and is being developed by
  Quadland Corporation LLC and once completed will be a total of 26 units.
- The Preserves at Yellow Creek located off of North Lima Rd., north of the round-a bout. This is in the second and third phase of construction and is being developed by Next G3N, LLC. These are single villas and once completed will be a total of 63 units.
- Ridgely Park Residential Subdivision there is a new extension being added to this Subdivision which is comprised of one street. The street's name will be Hines Run and once completed will have new housing on 16 lots.
- Park Place Residential Subdivision located south of Center Rd/Luteran Lane right-of-way. There has been ongoing continued construction taking place off of the Park Place entry into the development and soon another phase will be added.

